

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Rejection of claims 1 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e):

Claims 1 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ishiguro et al. (US 2006/0056624).

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Response:

The applicant would like to point out the patentable differences between the claimed subject matter of claims 1 and 5 and that of the Ishiguro reference. Claims 1 and 5 each specify that a first sub-authentication code is generated according to the first portion of an inquiring code and that a second sub-authentication code is generated according to the second portion of the inquiring code. Thereafter, the first and second sub-authorization codes are combined to form an authorization code.

On the other hand, Ishiguro teaches that a personal computer generates a first hash value Ha in step S52 in response to receiving content management data from a DVD drive in step S51. After reproduction of the content in step S53, the personal computer generates a second hash value Hb in step S54. Next, the personal computer generates a 64-bit random number Ra that is used for verifying an encryption algorithm during authentication.

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Ishiguro does not teach that the 64-bit random number Ra is a combination of the first and second hash values Ha, Hb. Moreover, Ishiguro does not teach any authentication code being created from the combination of two sub-authentication codes.

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For these reasons, Ishiguro fails to teach all of the limitations contained in claims 1 and 5, and the applicant submits that independent claims 1 and 5 are

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patentable over the cited prior art. Claims 2-4 and 6-8 are dependent on claims 1 and 5, and should be allowed if claims 1 and 5 are allowed. Reconsideration of claims 1-8 is therefore respectfully requested.

5 Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Sincerely yours,

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